

**CLAIM AMENDMENTS:**

The following listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1. (Currently amended) A method[[,]] comprising:  
~~determining whether a communication link is established between a modem and a network aggregation point;~~  
providing a first visual indication via a first visual indicator of a modem, the first visual indication associated with visually indicating an existence of the establishment of a communication link between the modem and a network aggregation point at a first location of the modem when the communication link is established;  
~~determining whether a user of the modem is authorized to access an information service to be provided over the communication link;~~  
providing a second visual indication via a second visual indicator of the modem, the second visual indication associated with visually indicating at a second location of the modem whether the user of the modem is an authorization authorized to access [[the]] an information service via the communication link; and  
~~extinguishing [[a]] the second visual indicator indication of accessibility of the information service when in response to a failure that is associated with the information service is not in operation.~~
  
2. (Currently amended) The method of claim 1, further comprising:  
~~utilizing wherein the first visual indicator includes a first light emitting diode (LED) and the second visual indicator includes a second LED to indicate whether the communication link is established; and~~  
~~utilizing a second light emitting diode to indicate whether the user of the modem is authorized to access the information service.~~

3. (Currently amended) The method of claim 1, further comprising executing a [[P]]point to [[P]]point [[P]]protocol over [[E]] ethernet (PPPoE) client in connection with establishing the communication link.

4.-8. (Canceled).

9. (Previously presented) The method of claim 1, wherein the modem comprises a digital subscriber line (DSL) modem.

10. (Canceled).

11. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the network aggregation point comprises a cable modem termination system.

12. (Currently amended) The method of claim 1, wherein the network aggregation point comprises a digital subscriber line access multiplexer (DSLAM).

13. (Canceled).

14. (Currently amended) A system[[,]] comprising:

- a display element coupled to a housing component, wherein the display element includes a visual display portion, and wherein the housing component at least partially defines an enclosure;
- a broadband modem unit secured within the enclosure;
- a link detection mechanism communicatively coupled to the broadband modem unit and operable to output a link signal in response to a determination that a communication link exists between the broadband modem unit and a network aggregation point;
- a data detection mechanism operable to output an ~~authorization~~ access signal in response to a determination that a user of the system is authorized to access ~~the~~ a remote information service, the data detection mechanism operable to extinguish the access signal ~~when~~ in response to detection of a failure associated with the remote information service ~~is not in operation~~;
- a first indicator ~~operable to be displayed~~ within the display element to provide a first indication in response to the link signal; and
- a second indicator ~~operable to be displayed~~ within the display element to provide a second indication in response to the ~~authorization~~ access signal.

15. (Currently amended) The system of claim 14, wherein the display element comprises a plurality of light emitting diodes (LEDs) within the visual display portion, and further wherein the first indicator comprises a first ~~lighted one~~ LED of the plurality of LEDs ~~light emitting diodes~~ and the second indicator comprises a second ~~lighted one~~ LED of the plurality of LEDs ~~light emitting diodes~~.

16. (Previously presented) The system of claim 14, wherein the broadband modem unit comprises a cable modem.

17. (Previously presented) The system of claim 14, wherein the broadband modem unit comprises a digital subscriber line (DSL) modem.

18. (Previously presented) The system of claim 14, further comprising a point to point protocol over [[E]] ethernet (PPPoE) client executing on a processor secured within the enclosure.

19. (Currently amended) A method comprising:

providing a subscriber with a broadband modem, the broadband modem comprising:

a first indicator operable to display a connectivity status indicating whether a connection exists between the broadband modem and a network aggregation node; and

a second indicator operable to ~~display an authorization status indicating whether a user of the broadband modem is authorized to access the~~ indicate a failure associated with a remote information service that is accessed by the broadband modem via the network aggregation node; and

~~providing a broadband data service to the subscriber.~~

20. (Currently amended) The method of claim 19, further comprising:

receiving a ~~trouble shooting~~ troubleshooting request from the subscriber, ~~the trouble shooting request relating to the broadband service;~~ and

prompting the user to observe the first indicator and the second indicator in response to receiving the troubleshooting request.

21.-22. (Canceled).

23. (New) The method of claim 1, wherein the failure comprises an equipment failure associated with the information service.

24. (New) The method of claim 23, wherein the equipment failure comprises a failure of an internet service provider (ISP).

25. (New) The method of claim 23, wherein the equipment failure comprises a failure of a domain name server (DSN).

26. (New) The system of claim 14, wherein the failure comprises an equipment failure associated with the information service.

27. (New) The system of claim 26, wherein the equipment failure comprises a failure of an internet service provider (ISP).

28. (New) The system of claim 26, wherein the equipment failure comprises a failure of a domain name server (DSN).

29. (New) The method of claim 19, wherein the failure comprises an equipment failure associated with the information service.

30. (New) The method of claim 29, wherein the equipment failure comprises a failure of an internet service provider (ISP).